

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

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P R 051129Z AUG 76
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
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INFO CINCPAC HONOLULU
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AMCONSUL SONGKHLA
AMCONSUL UDORN
SECSTATE WASHDC 1737
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UNCLAS BANGKOK 22120

USIAC

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJ: WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS--JULY 30-AUGUST 5, 1976

FOR IEA AND ICS/D, CINCPAC FOR USIA ADVISOR, CHIANG MAI AND UDORN
FOR BRANCH PAO, STATE FOR EA AND S/NM

MEDIA CONCERNS: THAI MEDIA PAST WEEK FOCUSSED ON VISITS FORMIN
PHICHAI TO LAOS AND HANOI. JOINT THAI-LAOTIAN COMMUNIQUE IN
WHICH BOTH SIDES PLEDGED TO MAKE "MEKONG A RIVER OF PEACE AND
FRIENDSHIP" WAS GIVEN EXTENSIVE COVERAGE IN THE MEDIA. PRESS TO-
DAY (AUG. 5) GAVE FRONT-PAGE COVERAGE TO OPENING RTG-SRV TALKS
IN HANOI AND STRESSED STATEMENT OF VIETNAMESE FORMIN NGUYEN DUY
THINH THAT DISCUSSIONS WOULD LEAD TO "NORMALISATION" OF RELA-
TIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. IN INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS,
MEDIA REPORTED EARTHQUAKE IN PRC WHILE ALL CHINESE PAPERS QUOTED
SENATOR HUGH SCOTT AS SAYING THAT PRC WAS BECOMING "IMPATIENT"
WITH U.S. FOR DELAYING ESTABLISHMENT DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:

1. IN ANOTHER OF ITS MONTHLY ORIENTATION PROGRAMS FOR RTG
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OFFICIALS, AUA LIBRARIANS ESCORTED DR. SUNTHORN SATIAN-THAI,

DIRECTOR-GENERAL, TREASURY DEPT AND 12 OF HIS COLLEAGUES ON TOUR OF LIBRARY FACILITIES JULY 29. THREE HOUR TOUR INCLUDED DEMONSTRATIONS OF MODERN LIBRARY EQUIPMENT SUCH AS MICRO-FICHE AND VTR'S. THAI TREASURY OFFICIALS SHOWED SPECIAL INTEREST IN MATERIALS RELATED TO OPERATION OF MINTS AND MANUFACTURER OF COINS. OFFICIALS WERE PRESENTED SEVERAL PACKETS OF MATERIALS DEALING WITH THESE SUBJECTS.

2. ART WORKSHOPS CONDUCTED BY AMSPEC AARON SHIKLER AT UNIVERSITIES OF SILPAKORN AND CHULALONGKORN AUG. 4-5 HAVE GIVEN POST OPPORTUNITY DEMONSTRATE CREATIVITY FLOURISHING AMONG MODERN AMERICAN ARTISTS. USING COLOR SLIDES TO ILLUSTRATE HIS LECTURE, MR. SHIKLER DESCRIBED TRENDS IN AMERICAN ART TODAY AND ELABORATED ON WIDE VARIETY ART STYLES CREATED BY AMERICAN ARTISTS. AUDIENCE OF STUDENTS AND FACULTY NUMBERED NEARLY 200 AT EACH WORK-SHOP. THEIR RESPONSE TO SHIKLER'S ENGAGING PERSONALITY AND HIS SLIDE-LECTURE WAS ENTHUSIASTIC.

3. POST PROVIDED PRODUCTION ADVISE AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO RTG FOR AID-NASA SATELLITE DEMONSTRATION HELD AT AID AUDITORIUM AUG 1. DEMONSTRATION INVOLVED SATELLITE TRANSMISSIONS TO AND FROM BANGKOK AND MADRID. POST FACILITIES WERE USED TO PRODUCE PRE-RECORDED VTR PROGRAM ILLUSTRATING USE OF SATELLITES IN THAILAND. AUDIO-VISUAL OFFICER WIL CLAUTICE ACTED AS TECHNICAL ADVISOR FOR THIS PRODUCTION. AT DEMONSTRATION, ATTENDED BY NEARLY 100 HIGH-RANKING RTG OFFICIALS, POST MICROPHONES AND OTHER EQUIPMENT WERE USED BY THAI PRODUCTION TEAM FOR LIVE PART OF THEIR PROGRAM.

4. POST DEVELOPED MOPIX AND RADIO PROGRAMS IN SUPPORT OF OUR ANTI-NARCOTICS OBJECTIVE AT 1ST ASIAN-EUROPEAN MEETING FOR HEADS OF DRUG ENFORCEMENT HELD IN CHIANG MAI JULY 12-16. RADIO WRITER-PRODUCER DUANG-SAMORN VICHITLEKAKARN PREPARED TWO SPECIAL 30 MINUTE PROGRAM BASED ON INTERVIEWS WITH HIGH-RANKING THAI NARCOTICS OFFICIALS WHICH HAVE BEEN BROADCAST ON THAILAND'S 100KW NATIONAL BROADCASTING STATION AND REBROADCAST ON 55 STATIONS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY. SHE HAS PREPARED ANOTHER 30 MINUTE PROGRAM TITLED "NARCOTICS--WORLD PLAGUE" FOR INCLUSION ON POST'S LONGTIME RADIO FEATURE "THAILAND MOVES AHEAD." THIS PROGRAM, WHICH WILL BE BROADCAST ON 22 STATIONS, IS AN EXTRACT OF PRESS UNCLASSIFIED

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CONFERENCE HELD IN BANGKOK FOLLOWING THE CONFERENCE. POST CAMERAMEN ALSO ATTENDED CONFERENCE AND FILMED PROCEEDINGS AND SHORT INTERVIEWS FOR INCLUSION IN UP-COMING THAI NEWSREEL (TN).

5. AMSPEC DR. PETER JONES, HISTORY DEPT. UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS, LECTURED AUG. 2-3 AT UNIVERSITIES OF CHULALONGKORN AND KASETSART ON SUBJECT, "SOCIALISM AND AMERICAN VALUES." JONES PRESENTED LUCID, WELL-ORGANIZED LECTURE CENTRAL THEME OF WHICH

WAS THAT AMERICAN VALUES WERE NOT INIMICAL CERTAIN ASPECTS SOCIALISM. ALTHOUGH HIS LECTURE, HEARD BY ABOUT 100 PROFESSORS AND STUDENTS AT EACH INSTITUTION, PROMPTED LITTLE DISCUSSION, SEVERAL FACULTY MEMBERS TOLD USIS PROGRAM OFFICER THAT JONES PROVIDED VALUABLE INSIGHTS INTO CONTEMPORARY AMERICAN REACTION POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, SOCIAL FACETS OF SOCIALIST THEORY.

IN SEPARATE PROGRAM, JONES' WIFE, DR. BEAU JONES, MET INFORMALLY WITH PROFESSORS OF EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY AT CHULALONGKORN UNIVERSITY. THEIR DISCUSSION BROADENED INTO A LENGTHY REVIEW OF RESEARCH IN THIS FIELD IN THAILAND AND U.S. DR. JONES LEARNED THAT RESEARCH IN THIS FIELD IN THAILAND HAS TOUCHED ON AREAS OF STUDY NOT YET EXAMINED BY U.S. SCHOLARS, PARTICULARLY IN REGARD TO PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN. SHE PROMISED TO CONTACT SCHOLARLY JOURNALS IN U.S. DEALING WITH ED. PSYCH IN ORDER TO HAVE THAI RESEARCH PAPERS TRANSLATED AND PUBLISHED IN U.S.
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